

The services of the Red Cross assist many kinds of people. They help provide lifesaving blood for the ill and injured; help restore the shattered lives of disaster victims; help our servicemen, veterans, and their families in periods of emergency; and help save lives and lessen suffering through training in first aid, water safety, and simple nursing skills.

While these could be called the basic purposes of the Red Cross, the organization also seeks out new areas of concern in American life. The Red Cross has helped the elderly to obtain government food assistance, the veteran to readjust to civilian life, the drug abuser to seek help, the migrant worker to better his living standards, and the student to obtain tutoring assistance.

Although the Red Cross receives the cooperation of many Federal, State, and local agencies, it derives its major financial support from the voluntary contributions of the American people. During the past year the Red Cross has been operating under an especially heavy financial burden because of outlays for disaster relief following the flood in Rapid City, South Dakota, and the Hurricane Agnes tragedy. I urge every American to help ensure that the Red Cross has the funds and volunteer manpower to fulfill its responsibilities during the year ahead. Helping the Red Cross—the Good Neighbor—continue its wide range of assistance programs is one way in which each of us can help our communities and our country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America and Honorary Chairman of the American National Red Cross, do hereby designate March 1973 as Red Cross Month, a month when every citizen is asked to join, serve, and contribute.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-seventh.



PROCLAMATION 4192

National Beta Club Week

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Nearly 150,000 young Americans in junior and senior high schools throughout the country live by the Beta Club motto: "Let us lead by serving others." By striving for high standards of honesty, accomplish-

March 5, 1973

ment, leadership, and service to others, Beta Club members are preparing themselves in the finest possible way for the responsibilities of citizenship and leadership which will be theirs in the years ahead.

To call public attention to the commendable activities and positive achievements of the Beta Club, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved October 19, 1972 (86 Stat. 917) has requested the President to designate the week which begins on the first Sunday in March, 1973 as National Beta Club Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week of March 4 through March 10, 1973, as National Beta Club Week, in recognition of the significant contributions being made by Beta Club members to the well-being of our country.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-seventh.



PROCLAMATION 4193

Law Day, U.S.A., 1973

By the President of the United States of America

March 8, 1973

A Proclamation

Nearly 190 years ago, Alexander Hamilton wrote in The Federalist Papers that an independent judicial system is "the best expedient which can be devised in any government, to secure a steady, upright, and impartial administration of the laws."

The theme of the sixteenth annual observance of Law Day, U.S.A., "Help Your Courts—Assure Justice," makes Hamilton's words particularly timely. For it is in our courts that our Constitution and all our laws take on their practical meaning.

The judicial system is the final arbiter of American justice—and the final guarantor of American democracy. The first principle of the judiciary must always be to interpret the law fairly and without prejudice—the rights of the weak must be equally protected with those of the strong, the rights of the poor with those of the rich, the rights of the guilty with those of the innocent.